GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4090
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
KISAN CREDIT CARDS
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs)/Swarozgar Credit Cards (SCCs) holders in the country, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;

(b) the details of loan sanctioned and the target set and achievements made by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in issuing KCCs/SCCs to the farmers during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to relax the rules to facilitate KCCs/SCCs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) Reserve Bank of India(RBI) has reported that as on 31 December, 2014, the number of operative Kisan Credit Cards (KCCs) issued by commercial banks stood at 1.65 crore. National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the number of KCCs issued by Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) stood at 5.05 crore as on 31 December 2014. The State wise data of operative KCCs issued by commercial banks and Cooperative Banks/RRBs as on 31.12.2014 are given in Annexure-I & II respectively.

As regards Swarozgar Credit Cards (SCCs), NABARD has reported that as on 31 December 2014, 15.83 lakh SCCs, with a bank loan of Rs. 6720.52 crore, have been issued since the inception of the scheme. In the state of Karnataka, 1.54 lakh SCCs have been issued with bank loan of Rs. 777.66 crore.

(b) The details of loan sanctioned and achievements made by the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in issuing KCCs to the farmers during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise, are given in Annexure- III, IV & V respectively.

The details of loan sanctioned and the target set and achievements made by the PSBs in issuing SCCs during the last three years and the current year are given in Annexure VI.

(c) & (d): In order to ensure that all eligible farmers are provided with hassle-free and timely credit for their agricultural operations, the Government has introduced the Kisan Credit Card Scheme, which enables them to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc. and draw cash to satisfy their consumption needs. The KCC Scheme has since been simplified and converted into ATM enabled debit card with, inter alia, facilities of one-time documentation, built-in cost escalation in the limit, any number of drawals within the limit, etc., which eliminates the need for disbursement through camps and mitigates the vulnerability of farmers to middlemen.